

THE ARGUS.

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BY THE J. W. POTTER CO.

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Monday, December 13, 1915.

Shop Early

Buy your Christmas presents early—Early in the day and do it now. That will be your biggest gift of the holidays to the workers behind the counters and on the delivery wagons.

Rock Island—From River to River

This is also the weather that makes a generous soul get out his check book.

Every woman who uses a handkerchief these days isn't, of necessity, trying to flirt.

Another fact that complicates the situation in regard to our foreign relations is that congress is in session.

Read The Argus advertisements of holiday offerings before you complete your Christmas shopping.

With regard to the cloture rule in the senate the question involved is whether one man has the right to indefinitely block the wheels of legislation regardless of his motive.

Those Jingoes who have been trying to make it appear that President Wilson has been weak in handling the foreign situation might read the note on the sinking of the Ancona.

With a newspaper reporter for every peace delegate on the Ford junket, it is evident that the Detroit man has not allowed his idealism to completely obscure his perception of the value of advertising.

Colorado officials have decided that the "dry" law of that state bars mince pies that have the real "snapp" to them—the kind our mothers used to make—and as a consequence that once favorite dessert for holiday menus will lose caste in Colorado.

Coal Valley is having a farmers' institute and stock and poultry show this week that the people of the county should not fail to visit. Such enterprise should be encouraged. Those from the city ought also be among those present.

Now discovery has been made that several years ago Henry Ford gave a silver cup to the Michigan militia. At that time, it is claimed, he said that every man should know how to shoot. As far as we can see Henry still is of the same belief—only now it appears he is for shooting the bull.

It is reported in Washington that Captain Boy-Ed, who is being sent home for alleged unbecoming acts in behalf of the Berlin government, is engaged to an American girl. So there is hope that he will yet become a desirable citizen of the United States.

"War in the east, peace in the west, thank God for Wilson" is to be the campaign slogan of the American Tariff Reform league, which has come out for the nomination and reelection of Wilson and Marshall in 1916. The league promises that it will reach directly 20,000,000 families in the United States and carry 7,500 newspapers on its mailing list.

Would you have it said that you were to blame for some child waking on Christmas morning only to have his dream in Santa Claus shattered? Well, to make sure that you won't send along a contribution to The Argus Santa Claus fund committee. The committee must care for about one thousand poor children this Christmas. Funds are needed, and they are needed now.

INDOLENCE AND HEALTH.

It has been said that the crime which nature never forgives is indolence. It is certain that our bodies were never planned for idleness. Good health is invariably the result of a continued and rational exercising of both our bodies and minds.

Whenever we fail to exercise them for a period of time they are apt to degenerate. Not infrequently, owing to the close association of the various parts of the complex human machinery, this results in the impairment of one part and reflects upon the others. The complications of modern life

are apt to result in our being forced into restricted sphere and it requires thought and intelligence to keep mind and body in good condition.

To devote one's self to tasks which require concentration and a combined effort of mind and body stimulates a rational development and goes far toward keeping us sane and healthy.

THE NATION'S FOREIGN POLICY.

The most grievous disappointment that has overtaken the narrow-bound political opponents of the present national administration grows out of the courageous, firm, statesmanlike and intelligent manner in which President Wilson has handled the various delicate and complicated international issues with European powers growing out of the war. Instead of proving weak and giving rise to the charges that America had lost prestige and respect, the president has pursued a course of firmness and fearlessness in upholding the neutral attitude of the United States that has startled his own countrymen and aroused the fear of the timid, and awakened the admiration of the world, but more than that, has compelled offending belligerents to bow to his mandates. As an instance, John Callan O'Loughlin, the Washington correspondent of the Chicago Herald, elaborating on the dispatches carried by the great press associations last Friday night, said over the wire:

William of Germany has personally withdrawn Captains Boy-Ed and Von Papen, naval and military attaches of the German embassy, and has made a personal request that the United States obtain safe conducts for them and their successors.

Secretary Lansing formally announced this fact this evening. It was made plain that the recall of the attaches was perfectly satisfactory to Emperor William, who handled the case personally.

The recall was asked by the United States because of the connection of the attaches with various plots against American order and security.

Delicate as is the situation of the United States with the central powers of Europe and irritating as are the questions between this country and the allies, there were other developments which caused the administration to look hopefully toward the future so far as the peace of this country is concerned.

On the part of the allies the British government made trade concessions, and, it is learned, intends to make others.

The vigorous protests of the United States lodged with Great Britain regarding that government's near policy of piracy with neutral shipping is, indeed, bearing fruit. Ambassador Page at London has notified Washington that Great Britain has acceded to the American protest against requisitioning ships of the American Trans-Atlantic company. Test cases will be made of two boats now in custody of the British, but in the meantime other vessels of this line will not be molested. By yielding to these points Great Britain has acknowledged that she was wrong. It appears to be a slow and tedious process to convince Great Britain that American commerce on the high seas must be permitted to move without undue interference, but it is winning. If the United States desired to court war with Great Britain it could put at the disposal of its merchant vessels a few warships as convoys to see that they were unmolested. This is the course that some advise who think the United States should plunge into the European conflict. It is quite plain, however, that we are accomplishing more by diplomacy and firmness in making demands whose justice cannot be denied than we could by any other method that could be suggested.

On top of this, the administration has sent a stinging rebuke to Austria amounting practically to an ultimatum and is preparing a hot note to France in protest of searching American ships bearing Germans to this country, and removing them, especially where the intent is to become American citizens. So that the international policy of the United States, instead of being supine or weak, is the strongest in American history under the most trying circumstances.

It is reported in Washington that Captain Boy-Ed, who is being sent home for alleged unbecoming acts in behalf of the Berlin government, is engaged to an American girl. So there is hope that he will yet become a desirable citizen of the United States.

ON COUNTY RECORDS.

Warranty Deeds.

Lillie M. Biggs and husband to Freeman E. Nye, lot 5, Island View Court addition, Rock Island, \$1.

Mary E. Huntoon to Jonathan S. and Harry A. Huntoon, lot 5, block 4, Edwards' first addition, Moline, \$1.

Emil K. Luchmann and wife to Lucy Luchmann, tract in northwest quarter, southwest quarter, northwest quarter, section 14, 17, 2w, \$1.

Charles E. Luchmann to Henry A. Luchmann, east 116 feet block 31, Sears, \$1.

Henry C. Luchmann to Emil C. Luchmann, east 116 feet block 31, Sears, \$1.

Hert Dixon to Albert P. Vallentius, part lot 11, block 8, second addition to Edgewood Park, Rock Island, \$1.

Mary C. and A. A. McEachron to Hiram S. Cable, H. S. Case sub-division 7, in northwest quarter, section 2, 17, 2w, \$1.

LaFayette and Florence Cameron to Gertrude L. Hanco, lot 3, H. Hansen's sub-division, South Rock Island, \$1.

Lucy G. Crowder to E. H. Blitter, lots 9 to 12, block 8, Slivis, and other lands, \$1.

E. H. Blitter to Lucy G. Crowder, lots 9 to 12, block 8, Slivis, and other lands, \$1.

Unchecked.

"How did Teller get his cold?" "All the drafts in the bank go through his cage."—Boston Transcript.

Selected by Tavenner



CLYDE H. TAVENNER

To the Readers of The Argus:

The Argus has generously agreed to permit me to make a regular contribution under this head, to use the space as if it were my own. I am left free to make my selection from where I will, whether it is timely or untimely; to search the highways and the byways for what may interest me as of interest and value to the people.

I assure my readers I shall try to make the most of the opportunity. To do so I must forget that party lines exist, and I will, just as I wish it might be practical for them not to exist and that the principal issue on election day might be, not whether a candidate belongs to this or that political party, but whether he is willing to serve the masses of the people or the few who exploit them.

In other words, my idea is to submit information or a thought that I would give to the world if I myself edited a newspaper, the only mission of which was to serve mankind; to do this and nothing more.

When I personally write the contribution, I will sign it, and when I present the thought and work of others I will so indicate.

THE THREATENING DANGER OF A MILITARY AUTOCRACY.

By Gen. L. R. Sherwood.

I see by the press dispatches that James R. Mann of Illinois, republican minority leader of this congress, is out for a defensive policy, so-called. In a very elaborate article this candidate for president fails to point out a single power or empire that is liable to attack the United States.

This is the same Mann, minority leader of the last congress, who induced the majority of the republican side to vote for every extravagant appropriation, with only two or three exceptions, during the whole term of congress.

As soon as this congress adjourned on March 4, last, Mr. Mann summoned the leaders of the republican party, with the result that a bulletin was issued, giving the enormous appropriations of this congress, and denouncing every measure that the republicans were induced to vote for.

The result was that we had an extra tax bill, just preceding the November elections last, that gave the democrats a close call for a majority in congress. Only alone lost 10 democratic members.

It is proposed to inaugurate an extensive program of militarism, a wicked waste of public money, to swamp the democratic party next year in the presidential election.

Back of this program are the trusts and the Army and Navy league, all clamoring for a big army and a greater navy, when we have today the most powerful navy in the world, with the exception of the English.

Let me remind the reader that the most vital plank in the Baltimore platform, upon which Woodrow Wilson was elected president, pledged the democratic party to retrenchment and economy in the administration of the government.

I have stated the immense profits realized by the armor plate trust in the construction of armored cruisers and battleships of the dreadnaught type.

For instance, when war with Spain was imminent, the armor manufacturers practically issued an ultimatum that the government should agree to pay them \$100 a ton for armor plate more than the price fixed by congress after investigation as to a fair price.

And it is also worthy of notice that their patriotism did not prevent them from selling armor to Russia for \$249 a ton while they were asking our government \$316 a ton.

There have been nine official estimates as to the actual cost of the manufacture of a ton of armor plate. Average is \$247 per ton.

Yet since 1887 we have purchased 217,379 tons of armor, paying the armor ring an average of \$440 a ton, a total of \$95,656,240.

Out of this enormous aggregate of hard earned tax money the armor trust alone realized a net profit of \$190 per ton or \$41,301,910. Hence it has been able to subscribe to the propaganda known as the Army and Navy league, and to

army, a graduate of the university of California, wrote home recently that the average life of men engaged in range finding was 30 days. At that time he had been at it for 17 days, and before the time limit had expired he, too, had joined the great majority.



HEALTH TALKS
William Brady, M.D.

For Services Rendered.

Your doctor's bill, as a general rule, reads: "For Professional Services Rendered." That means that you are to pay for work done, and not for miracles performed. If you hire a doctor to attend you in sickness, you enter a contract to pay for his expert services whether he succeeds in curing you or not. It would be unfortunate for both parties in the contract if the terms were otherwise. For instance:

A shrewd son of Erin had a wife and couldn't keep her from running to the doctor with every little ache or pain. So he made up his mind to hit off a bargain with the doctor. He persuaded the doctor to take care of his wife by the year, agreeing to pay a fixed annual subsidy for the doctor's services, instead of a fee for each visit.

Well, the arrangement worked beautifully for a time. Then the woman died. The bereaved husband was inconsolable. But of course that was no concern of the doctor's. In fact, the doctor sent in his bill the day after the funeral; the amount seemed exorbitant to Larry under the circumstances. He called to talk it over.

"Now, doctor," he began, "you agreed to take care of her whenever she called, didn't you?"

"I did," said the doctor.

"And you were to charge me \$300 a year for your professional services, kill or cure, were ye not?"

contribute many more millions every two years to elect a protective tariff congress.

The powder trust is another powerful ally of this Army and Navy league. Without war there is not much demand for the wholesale consumption of powder. Before the democrats obtained control of congress we were paying the du Pont powder trust from 60 cents to \$1 a pound for powder. Turn to your congressional directory and read as follows:

"Henry Algernon du Pont, republican of Winterturk, Delaware, is a United States senator for the little state of Delaware."

Look a little deeper into the congressional directory and you will see the name of Henry A. du Pont at the head of the committee on military affairs of the senate.

Congressman Tavenner of Illinois says:

"We are manufacturing powder in government plants now for 25 cents per pound and the officers in charge state that the more we manufacture the cheaper we can produce it. There is little doubt that from eight to ten million dollars of the \$25,000,000 paid the powder trust could have been saved by government manufacture."

Comment to any citizen of sanity and sense is unnecessary. Of course the powder trust is for a big army and a bigger navy, as it takes 800 pounds of powder to fire one of those 12-inch guns once.

On Feb. 5, 1915, I heard Oscar Underwood, democratic leader, after the following when the naval appropriation was in debate on the floor of the house of representatives:

"I believe we ought to have a reasonable navy and a reasonable army, but I do not want to see my country have either a navy or an army that will invite us to make issues that may precipitate our people into the caldron of bloodshed and disaster. (Applause.) I believe that if you propose to enter into a race of armaments the end of the story will mean war. (Applause.)"

Have we a reasonable army and navy now? Let us scan the figures: Regular army, 91,416 men; navy, 52,756 men. Appropriation for army and navy for this year, \$241,000,000. Appropriation for the army and navy in 1883, less than \$50,000,000 all told.

How long has this army and navy been idle, with nothing substantial to do? A trifle over 17 years.

How many men of this 91,416 have been called into active duty during this 17 years? Less than 12,000.

How many of these great battle-ships have been needed during this last 17 years for any service? Only five.

Do you want a \$500,000,000 bond issue in time of peace or are you yearning for more tariff taxes or tripling the income tax?

army, a graduate of the university of California, wrote home recently that the average life of men engaged in range finding was 30 days. At that time he had been at it for 17 days, and before the time limit had expired he, too, had joined the great majority.

CHORDS AND DISCORDS

IN THE WINTER.

Wind am whistlin' in de chimney,
Cabin's shakin' wid de blast,
An' de sky am dark an' glowin',
An' de clouds am scootin' fast.
Seems lak dis whole worl' am gloomy
When you gazes out de do',
An' de sun am out and acts lak
It ain't goin' to shine no mo',
But ole mammy's gettin' supah,
An' de stove am nice and wahn,
An' de cohn pone's in de oven,
Same as ef dere was no stobhm.
Hail an' rain, it am a-dashin',
Gin de house lak all git out;
It kain't hardly knock de roof in,
But it seems as ef it mount,
All de naked trees am moanin',
An' de win' bang on de do',
But de little pickaninles
Am a-playin' on de flo',
An' a-laffin' an' a-singin',
An' de good Lawd will provide,
Though de elements am howlin',
Ef dere's happiness inside.
Ef yo' trials in life am stobhm,
An' de col' win' blows yo' way,
An' it seems lak Fate am hapdin',
Yo' a lemon every day,
Don't git up an' act despondent,
Don't talk gloomy, but jes' smile;
Wahn yo' heart up an' jes' see ef
It don't help yo' quite a pile.
Do yo' duty to de finish,
Den let ole Fate fret and scold—
He kain't freeze yo' out, no, nevah,
While dere's comfort in yo' soul.

ROY K. MOULTON.

Candy Kids!

Boys Wanted. Palmer Candy Co., 239 Douglas street.—Want ad in Sioux City Journal.

Two for a Jitney.

Wanted—Two corn huskers, at 5 cents.—Sioux City Journal.

To an Unknown Friend.

"I want to pay a tribute," said a citizen yesterday, "to an unknown friend and say, at the same time, that if ever I get in similar trouble again I trust the same gentleman will be present. Going home early Thursday morning about 2:30 o'clock, my Ford car skidded at the death corner on Eleventh avenue, just beyond the North grocery and vaulted half way over the concrete curb and into the vacant lot there. I was locked in such a position that my car could not get its rear wheels into action. Then a friend appeared, a tall man, carrying a lantern. He looked at the efforts I was making to get out, said simply, 'If that is a Ford car we can lift it out,' and he did."—North Yakima (Wash.) Herald.

A New Jersey law professor recently propounded to his class the question, "Who owns a baseball after it leaves the pitcher's hand on its way to the catcher?" The professor says the ball still belongs to the pitcher, but a New Yorker, who is either extremely logical or somewhat fastidious, has written a letter to the papers to prove that the club stockholders own the ball, first, last and all the time.

THE Episcopal ladies will hold their "shower" at the home of Mrs. C. A. Leak on Monday evening.—La Crosse Tribune.

Ye Ed's Dying Gasp.

Dying slowly departing in a town of plenty. Who? The Independent, unless some financial dope is administered, it will breathe its last with this issue, being compelled to give up the ghost and pass in its checks, and sweep into the dark depths of the forevermore, and soon be forgotten, same as all other earthly things. No supplications or prayers can save it. There is only one remedy that will restore it to life, health and prosperity: that would be a big dose of ads, given, with a few subscribers, once each week—simple remedy. The doctors might help to prolong its life by adding an ad to its column instead of watching the pale horse of death and its rider galloping by.—Bancroft (Wis.) Independent.

Famous Excuses.

"Didn't know it was loaded."
"You can't tell what a jury will do."
"Unavoidably delayed."
"Detained at the office, m'dear."
"The majority rules."—Peoria Herald.

Pointed Paragraphs.

A good liar is always considered bad.

Stick to your business with the glue of industry.

A fertile imagination may produce rank thoughts.

It takes a wise man to pick a fool whose money he can spend.

The helmsman who marries a man to reform him is foolish to begin with the gold cure.

The woman who marries a widower is likely to mourn the demise of his first wife.

There's only one way to acquire wisdom, but when it comes to making a fool of yourself you have your choice of a million different ways.—Chicago News.

And Ye Ed Writes a Poem.

Mike Clancy took decided exceptions to the item in the last issue of the Reporter, in regard to his recent bad behavior and improved his opportunity to hawl us out on the street Saturday night while under the influence of another "maudlin jag."

Mike J. C. is a queer queer gink. He'd die for want of drink. And with a drink there comes a spell: He backtracks home and he raises hell.

—Dawson (Neb.) Reporter.

"WIFE of 19 discusses divorce action."—Cleveland Leader. She ought to be fairly well posted on the subject.

J. M. C.

The Daily Story

Youth and Age—By F. A. Michel.

She was born a flirt. When she was a little girl she preferred the company of boys rather than girls; not that she was a tomboy, for she was very feminine. When she was 13 she captured a boy of 10 and gave him a genuine case of love. At 15 she enthralled a man of 30. At 18 her admirers were numberless. At 20 her mother insisted that she should stop flirting and marry.

She promised to think about it, but before she had finished her thinking she was 24, and by that time a woman is hard to please. At 26 she was not only harder to please, but had fewer eligible men to choose from. Then she woke up one morning to find herself an old maid.

She did not like the prospect before her. She declined to accept it. She set her jaws and resolved that she would marry for a home and children. She did not agree with the poet that "knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers." She believed she could select a partner who would fulfill all the conditions of a desirable husband. As for romance, bah! Had she not been very nearly in love with Charlie Ashurst, who had afterward gone to the bad? She had been engaged to Tom Chester, who was now a fat, baldheaded pig. Her mother had interposed between her and Jimmie Ludlow, who had married and had been divorced for cruelty, well established. This was or had been romance. No more of it for her. She wanted a man who would go to business in the morning, return in the evening and not bother her for those little attentions husbands usually desire. She would lavish her affections on the children.

She met a man a few years her senior who seemed to fill the bill. On meeting her he seemed interested in her. He did very little talking, but was a first rate listener. So far as she could discover there was not a spark of romance in him. She determined to marry him if she could.

Realizing that the coquettish ways of a girl in her teens would not avail her now, she tried to make herself acceptable to him as a companion. She talked sensibly, acted sensibly. She admitted that she had made a mistake in not marrying when younger and would like to rectify the error before it was too late. Any time was time enough for a home, but would soon be too late for children. She also intimated that the man she wanted was one who would make her comfortable. Love after marriage, she had heard married persons say, was after all, but an intensified companionship.

He neither assented nor dissented from this. He looked at her curiously while she was saying it, and she wondered what he was thinking about. Perhaps it was his reticence and her

own curiosity that gave her an interest in him, the strength of which she did not realize. She noticed that, though he said very little, what he did say inspired confidence. After an evening spent in his company she felt her inferiority. He paid her few compliments, but when he did praise her she felt that he meant it and she deserved it.

Notwithstanding that they were much together and she had admitted that she wished to marry, he did not propose. Either he was obtuse or he preferred to remain a bachelor. Nevertheless his visits increased in frequency, and at last he was with her every other evening. Finally he said to her:

"Your philosophy has converted me. A marriage based on common sense is worth a dozen with no other foundation than infatuation. That's what it is, infatuation. Like you, I wish to marry for a home and children."

"It's coming at last," she said to herself.

"At my time of life I look for the woman who is most likely to make my home comfortable. I have been considering two women—not that I have any assurance that I can get either—yourself and another. I think the other will make me the more comfortable, though she is not as attractive as you."

This was too much for her philosophy. She looked at him, trying to find voice to make reply, but feared to betray herself by a quivering lip.

"I would like you to meet my fiancée," he continued. "She is not intellectual, but practical. One thing about her that has gone far to decide me in her favor is that she is an excellent cook."

At last she found voice to speak. "Your words are positively brutal!" He burst into a laugh, at the same time taking her into his arms.

"Am I more brutal," he said, "than the girl who drove Fred Jones to attempt suicide?"

"Fred Jones?"

"Yes, I am that Fred Jones whom you lured to a proposal 11 years ago and who left you to jump into a river, from which he was unwillingly rescued. He recovered from a desire to fill himself with dirty water, but has never recovered from his love of the dear girl who sent him forth that night."

"Heavens!" she interrupted. "I can remember a good many of them, but I can't recall any one by the name of Jones."

"It doesn't matter. The age of romance with us has passed. We need each other now. In our youth we didn't; the world was ours."

They were married, and every one said, "What a lackadaisical couple!"

Sidelights on the European War

Ottawa, Canada. — (Correspondence of The Associated Press).—An interesting official account of how horses fare in war is contained in a report received here from the chief remount officer with the Canadian troops in France. There are approximately 15,000 horses with the Canadian army corps in France, and the report points out that even in modern warfare each infantry division of 21,000 men requires 6,200 horses.

Continuing the report reads: "The horses of a division are taken care of by 12 veterinary officers and one mobile veterinary section of 27 men, which attends to the horses in the firing line."

"There is one Canadian field hospital in France composed of 387 men and six officers. It has a capacity of 1,000 cases, and the work which is done there is really remarkable. Horses, which in previous wars and in civilian life, would be destroyed at once, are treated so successfully that in due course they become fit for military duty in the firing line. It is interesting to note that of 670 horses sent in on one occasion, only 12 died. Five hundred and ninety-five eventually became fit for reissue, or to be sold as beasts for easy duty."

"The men work under the most trying conditions, often exposed to the fire of rifle and big gun. They are up around the lines all the time gathering in wounded horses; their horsemanship is remarkable. Wounded horses are immediately given first aid. Any horse that can walk is rushed back to the mobile section, or field hospital, his wounds are carefully treated and every care given him."

"During the second battle of Ypres, when the Canadians were pressed to their utmost, at no time was the supply of horses diminished at the firing line. As casualties occurred among battery and transport horses, reinforcements were rushed through the storm of bursting shells to take their places. Although our guns were within three yards of the enemy, there never was a wagon or a gun lost, in what is known as one of the fiercest engagements that has taken place in this war